

REMARKS

This application pertains to a novel separation module.

Claims 2, 4-11, 13-16 and 18-30 are pending; Claims 18-25 and 28 have been withdrawn from consideration as drawn to non-elected subject matter, so that the claims under examination are claims 2, 4-11, 13-16, 26, 27, 29 and 30.

Claim 29 has been cancelled and its limitation has been added to claims 27 and 28 of the application. Claim 27 is therefore now an independent form of claim 29.

Applicants respectfully request that upon the allowance of claims drawn to the elected subject-matter, the non-elected claims be rejoined.

Claims 4, 5, 7-9 and 26-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Filippi (US 3,536,611 in view of Borrelli (US 6,350,618) and further in view of Garcera (US 4,640,774).

Claims 2, 6, 12 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Filippi (US 3,536,611 in view of Borrelli (US 6,350,618) and further in view of Garcera (US 4,640,774) as applied to claim 27 above, and further in view of Taketomo.

Claims 10, 11 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Filippi (US 3,536,611 in view of Borrelli (US 6,350,618) and further in view of Garcera (US 4,640,774) as applied to claim 27 above, and further in view of Hersey (US 4,990,412).

Claims 13 and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Filippi (US 3,536,611 in view of Borrelli (US 6,350,618) and further in view of Garcera (US 4,640,774) as applied to claim 27 above, and further in view of Shay (4,310,607).

Claims 29 and 30 stand objected to as dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The limitations of claim 29 have now been added to claim 27, thereby making claim 27 an independent form of claim 29. Claim 27 is thereby believed to now be in condition for allowance.

Claim 30 has been amended to depend from claim 27, and is therefore believed to also now be in condition for allowance.

All of the remaining claims also depend from claim 27, and they are therefore believed to now be in condition for allowance.

The rejection of claims 4, 5, 7-9 and 26-27 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Filippi (US 3,536,611 in view of Borrelli (US 6,350,618) and further in view of Garcera (US 4,640,774), should therefore now be withdrawn.

The rejection of claims 2, 6, 12 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Filippi (US 3,536,611 in view of Borrelli (US 6,350,618) and further in view of Garcera (US 4,640,774) as applied to claim 27 above, and further in view of Taketomo should also now be withdrawn.

The rejection of claims 10, 11 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Filippi (US 3,536,611 in view of Borrelli (US 6,350,618) and further in view of Garcera (US 4,640,774) as applied to claim 27 above, and further in view of Hersey (US 4,990,412) should be withdrawn for the same reasons.

The rejection of claims 13 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Filippi (US 3,536,611 in view of Borrelli (US 6,350,618) and further in view of Garcera (US 4,640,774) as applied to claim 27 above, and further in view of Shay (4,310,607) should

also be withdrawn for the same reasons.

In view of the present amendments and remarks it is believed that claims 2, 4-11, 13-16 and 18-28 and 30 are now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of said claims by the Examiner is respectfully requested and the allowance thereof is courteously solicited.

CONDITIONAL PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

If any extension of time for this amendment is required, applicants request that this be considered a petition therefore. Please charge the required petition fee to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

ADDITIONAL FEE

Please charge any insufficiency of fee or credit any excess to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

Respectfully submitted,
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